

## CELEBRATING GLOBAL LEADERSHIP MAYOR PEREZ AT KICK OFF EVENT FOR THE ACADEMY FOR LATINO STUDIES

## ---NEWS AND COMMUNITY ADVISORY FOR 5/5/08---

**3:30** p.m.--- Mayor Eddie A. Perez, in his capacity as Chairman of the Board of Education, helps present the Academy for Latino Studies kick off event. This is part of the strategy to create an "All-Choice" system of schools in Hartford. The mission of this Pre-K through 8 School is to develop critical thinkers for this century's global economy by utilizing the rich language and cultural resources in the City.

The celebration takes place at Dominick F. Burns Elementary School Auditorium, 195 Putnam Street. Speakers include Mayor Perez, Superintendent Dr. Steven Adamowski, Israel Flores (BOE member and alumnus of Burns Elementary), Felicity Harley, Executive Director of The World Affairs Council of CT, and Dr. Lourdes Soto, Principal for the Academy for Latino Studies.

The special guest speaker is James R. Jones, Former U.S. Ambassador to Mexico and Chairman of the U.S.-Mexico Chamber of Commerce.

Mayor Perez says, "This new academy gives more students access to hands on experience in a multi-cultural society and a better understanding of the importance of a global economy. We need to prepare Hartford students to be critical thinkers as our world tackles new challenges and awesome opportunities."

For more information on the Mayor's role, please contact Sarah Barr, Director of Communications at (860) 550-3174 or Ramon Espinoza, Media Liaison, at (860) 463-1652. For more information on the event, please contact Nancy Benben, Interim Chief Communications Officer at Hartford System of Schools, at (860) 695-8686.